में उग्रवादियों और सुरक्षा कर्मियों सहित कितने व्यक्ति मारे गये हैं और कितने घायल हुये हैं तथा अब तक कितनी गिरफ्तारियां की गई हैं और इन उग्रवादियों से कितने हथियार बरामद किये गये हैं ;

(ख) उग्रवादियों के ठिकानों से बरामद किये गये शवों की संख्या कितनी है और उनकी पहचान संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) उल्फा उग्रवादियों की अनुमानित संख्या कितनी है ;

(घ) क्या इन उल्फा उग्रवादियों को विदेशों से सहायता मिल रही है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुबोध कांत सहाय): (क) राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू करने के बाद मारे गये तथा घायल हुये, व्यक्तियों, बरामद किये गये शस्त्र तथा की गयी गिरफ्तारियों के ब्यौरे निम्न प्रकार हैं :

(1)	मारे गये सुरक्षा कर्मचारी	2
	घायल हुये सुरक्षा कर्मचादी	11
(2)	मारे गये उल्फा उग्रवादी	3
	घायल हुये उल्फा उग्रवादी	5
(3)	बरामद किये गये शस्त्र	441
(4)	गिरफ्तार किये गये व्यक्तियों की संख्या	1269

(ख) राष्ट्रपति शासन लागू करने के बाद बरामद किये गये शव 26

(ग) अलग अलग रिपोर्टें प्राप्त हुई हैं और वास्तविक आंकड़े देना बहुत कठिन है।

(घ) तथा (ङ) उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार उल्फा के लोगों ने सीमापार उग्रवादी समूहों से प्रशिक्षण तथा हथियार प्राप्त किये।

Constitution of Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan Statutory Development Boar

507. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the former Prime Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, had, on the 15th August, 1990 announced Government's intention to constitute Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan Statutory Development Board under Article 371(2) of the Constitution;

(b) whether Government propose to bring any legislation in this regard;

(c) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard;

(d) if the reply to part (b) above be in the nagative, what are the reasons therefor;

(e) whether backward regions in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have also been identified for constituting statutory development boards in those States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b), (c) and (d) The earlier proposal of the Government of Maharashtra was for issuing President's Order in terms of article 371(2) of the Constitution to facilitate establishment of separate Development Boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra. The revised proposal suggests inclusion of Konkan in article 371(2) and for making a change in the provision relating to "the special responsibility" of the Governor. The proposals have been examined in the Ministry.

(e) and (f) The economic development of backward regions is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned and is part of the larger developmental strategy and programmes. These aspects are taken care of by the State Governments while formulating their plans.

508. [*Transferred to the 3rd January* 1991]

Revitalisation of Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.

509. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any plan for the revitalisation of the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) to (c) The working of Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, Durgapur is being regularly monitored by Government and steps are taken for effecting improvement in its performance. This includes upgradation of the existing technology.

Use of alcohol as petroleum substitute

510. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had made Plan panel exercises during 1979 for promoting use of alcohol using agricultural surpluses as a substitute of petroleum;

(b) if so, in view of the Gulf crisis and increase in crude price whether the Planning Commission would rework these exercises in the present scenario; and

(c) whether any serious study has been carried out on the possibilities of liquification of coal as a substitute for crude oil using German or South African Technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) The Planning Commission had set up a Working Group on Energy Policy in December, 1977 whose Report was received in November, 1979. The Working Group had recommended that the possibilities of introducing producer gas powered vehicles and the use of alcohol to substitute petrol/diesel should be studied and necessary efforts should be initiated in this direction at the earliest. An inter-Ministerial Committee set up by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals explored the possibilities of using alcohol as motor fuel in transport sector. The Report of the Committee was submitted in July, 1989. The Committee opined that surplus alcohol was not available on a sustained basis in this country for use as motor fuel and it should be used only for producing value added chemicals.

(b) In the context of present Gulf crisis, a Steering Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals to examine the inter-fuel substitution possibilities of Ethanol, Methanol, CNG and LPG and to evaluate the options, considering their opportunity cost and techno-economic viability, for total/partial replacement of diesel/petrol.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Central Fuel Reseach Institute has been carrying out research and development work on the conversion of coal to liquid fuels for the last two decades.

CBI investigation into corruption case against retired army officer

511. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the daily "Business & Political Observer" New Delhi, dated 28-11-90 captioned "CBI, army at Loggerheads" on the reported indifference of Army officials to let CBI investigate a corruption case against Major General A. K. Gupta (Retired);